

IN THE CLAIMS

~~Release cancel Claim 16.~~

~~16. (twice amended) A method for manufacturing a bearing element comprising the steps of:~~

~~forming a plurality of layers from a combination of a first material and a second material, wherein a first of said layers formed from a plurality of materials comprising at least one of polytetrafluoroethylene fibers, glass fibers, carbon fibers, and combinations thereof, and wherein a second of said layers is formed against the first layer and is formed from a single material;~~

~~forming the bearing element from the plurality of layers; and~~

~~impregnating each of the bearing element plurality of layers with a polyimide resin comprising polytetrafluoroethylene powder.~~

17. (once amended) A method in accordance with Claim 13 wherein:

c3 the first layer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene fibers and glass fibers;

the second layer comprises glass fibers;

the third layer comprises polytetrafluoroethylene fibers and glass fibers; and

the glass fibers are coated with an epoxy sizing.

**REMARKS**

The Office Action mailed October 28, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof. Submitted herewith is a Submission of Marked Up Paragraphs and Claims.

Claims 11, 13-15, and 17-20 are pending in this application. Claims 11 and 13-20 stand rejected. Claim 16 has been canceled.

The rejection of Claims 11 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is respectfully traversed. Specifically, Claims 11 and 17 have been amended to replace references to Teflon with the chemical name polytetrafluoroethylene, which Applicants